



TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

MARCH 14, 2014

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ON BILL #418, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S
RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING MEDICAL SPAS

Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and Members of the Committee,

I am a Nurse Practitioner and owner/operator of a small boutique medspa in Wilton, CT. I am here today to declare my support for Bill #418.

To quote my first medical director upon entering the aesthetic medicine field, "***aesthetic medicine is a marriage of art and science***". She understood that it is not enough to merely know how to do a procedure. One must also have an aesthetic sensibility, know when you can or cannot achieve a certain result, and know when the work is completed. Not any one discipline of medicine owns the franchise on aesthetic acumen.

I truly appreciate the combined efforts of legislators, The American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association, and The Connecticut Society of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeons for initiating the original bill to make our industry safer. Although I didn't agree with the original bill because it conflicted with the APRN Practice Act, I agreed with the intent of it. I appreciate the Governor's efforts to bring together the various professions that make up the aesthetic industry. As a result of this collective task force, the language has been revised in the current bill to include important definitions and recognize the expertise of other providers that perform many of the services in this industry, specifically NP's, RN's, and PA's.

My observation over the past ten years working in the aesthetic medicine field has been that it is ***collegial***. The first course I took to learn how to inject was taught by an RN, and my fellow classmates included physicians. During the course of my aesthetic medicine career, I have not only honed my skills under the tutelage of NP's, RN's, and MD's, but *I have trained others, including physicians* in a formal professional capacity as well as informally during the course of practicing in the office.

This past fall, I was privileged to attend one of the Medical Spa Workgroup meetings held to write this bill. One of the concerns voiced by a physician in the group was regarding training and continuing education of providers who are not dermatologists or plastic



surgeons. It occurred to me that perhaps there is a knowledge deficit about the vast amount of training available in aesthetic medicine. To help clarify, I have assembled a short list of professional organizations that offer professional membership and certification tests and have attached it to my testimony.

I care about my industry and I care about public safety. If I can be of service to the committee on matters of aesthetic medicine as this bill moves forward, it would be my pleasure to serve you.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Bill #418.



Professional Organization	Certifying Exam	Web Address
American Academy of Medical Esthetic Professionals	Medical Esthetic Professional – Certified (MEP-C)	www.aamep.org
American Society of Plastic Surgical Nurses	Certified Plastic Surgical Nurse (CPSN)	www.aspsn.org
American Society of Plastic Surgical Nurses	Certified Aesthetic Nurse Specialist (CANS)	www.aspsn.org
Dermatology Nurses Association	Dermatology Nurse Certified (DNC)	www.dnanurse.org
Dermatology Nurses Association	Dermatology Certified Nurse Practitioner (DCNP)	www.dnanurse.org
National Academy of Dermatology Nurse Practitioner's	(in the process of developing an evidence-based certification exam)	www.nadnp.net

Notable web resources:

The American College of Aesthetic and Cosmetic Physicians

www.medicalaestheticsociety.org

Offers a comprehensive list of professional organizations in the aesthetic medicine field.

The American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery

www.surgery.org

Offers a free 109 page workbook about “Safety With Injectables”

The American Academy of Aesthetic Medicine

www.aaamed.org

Lists aesthetic certification courses by city and date both nationally and internationally.

The American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery

www.aslms.org

Offers lists of laser and light based energy educational conferences, online laser education, and safety training.

The Esthetic Skin Institute

www.esiw.com

Offers various training courses in aesthetic medicine.



Practical CME

www.practicalcme.com

Offers training in aesthetic procedures and CME-accredited certification.

Aesthetic Medical Educators Training

www.aestheticmedicaltraining.com

Offers hands-on aesthetic medical training courses.

Laser Vision Academy

Academy.lasersafety.com

Offers training in laser safety.

The Laser Training Institute

www.lasertraining.org

Provides training on laser use and safety.